



# SWARC NEWS

## *Meeting Notes*

### SWARC 3 FEB 2020 MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Mike Gaither, K4MWG.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Bernie Jones, N4BAJ. Introductions were made around the room; there were about 25 folks present.

The meeting followed the members feasting upon various appetizers and other treats brought by the members for the potluck-style meal.

Treasurer Christine Fernandini, KJ4AEO, was not present but President Mike provided a treasurer's report stating that we have \$1,458.34 in the bank account as of the meeting.

President Mike reminded everyone that we have new raffle tickets for members to sell; they will be for two \$250.00 Visa gift cards, which hopefully will make the tickets more attractive to a broader audience.

Al Crawford, WA4TCJ, stated that he is taking orders for more club nametags and the March meeting will be the cutoff date as he will be going to Virginia to collect them rather than pay shipping.

Don Nicholson, KN4OEY, announced that he will be conducting the Geezer Net at noon on Sunday so now we have a full week of network activity on the '210' repeater twice a day.

We had no program this evening since this was our annual auction for selling/buying used radio equipment and other things. Steve Mowels, KA0GMY, conducted the auction, 'full contact,' as he described it. Some of the gear sold was from the estate of a ham operator that recently passed away (SK). Monies raised from sale of his equipment will be given back to the family. Remaining, unsold, gear will be taken to RARS Fest and hopefully will find a new forever home in a ham shack in another galaxy, far, far away!

All in all, it was a great meeting that adjourned at 7:40 pm.

73, Richard Hall – K7RLH – Secretary

# South Wake Amateur Radio Club Treasurer Report January 2020

## Club Addition and Reduction Activity

### Additions

|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|

**Total Additions** 0.00

### Reductions

|           |        |                |                         |
|-----------|--------|----------------|-------------------------|
| Ham Shack | 420.92 | check#<br>1687 | reimbursed Mike Gaither |
| NCQP 2020 | 50.00  | check#<br>1688 |                         |

**Total Reductions** 470.92

## RBC Bank Account Activity

|                             |         |  |  |
|-----------------------------|---------|--|--|
| Balance as of<br>01/06/2020 | 1929.26 |  |  |
| Addition                    | 0.00    |  |  |
| Reduction                   | 470.92  |  |  |

**Balance as of  
02/03/2020** 1458.34

Christine Fernandini KJ4AEO  
02/03/2020

## **NET Report**

***Joe, KM4YTF is on the lookout for new net control operators. If interested please contact Joe, KM4YTF.***

**Okay Joe has put together a spread sheet for tracking check-ins. If everyone does like they should then there will be no reason to send reports in any more. Thanks Joe.**

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# **MEMBERSHIP**

*Just a reminder that it is time to pay membership dues for the 2019-2020 time frame.*

*\$30 for individual and \$5 for each family member.*

*You can bring a check or cash to the meeting Monday October 7th or mail them to the club PO box and Christy will let me know she has received them so I can update the list. If you mail them, give me a heads up so I can mark it as pending on the roster.*

*Makes checks payable to South Wake ARC.*

*If you are going to mail it, send it to South Wake ARC – PO Box 1565 – Fuquay Varina, NC 27526*

*I have taken over as Membership Director from Ryan, so please direct any questions to me.*

*I will be developing an online form so new members can fill out the application online and mail or bring a check to a meeting.*

*I will be reaching out to all members here soon to make sure I have the latest contact information, addresses, etc so I can make sure the membership list reflects current information.*

**Thanks**

**David Sosnin**

**N4TTN**

**[n4ttn.radio@gmail.com](mailto:n4ttn.radio@gmail.com)**

***David has updated the membership list and sent it out. Please check the list and make sure you are on it. If you do not see your name then you have a couple of options: 1) Pay your dues and get back on the list 2) If you have paid then fuss at David 3) David forgets that everyone is not as social as he is so if you did not receive a copy then send David an email at [n4ttn.radio@gmail.com](mailto:n4ttn.radio@gmail.com) and request a copy.***

## **Public Service**

***Check the RARS web site often for Public Service opportunities.***

### **South Wake Amateur Radio Club Name Badges**

If you are thinking about ordering a club name badge you need to do it by the March club meeting. This will be the last order for a few months. I will have the order back before the April club meeting. I will be in Virginia the end of March and will go by and pick up the order. That will save on shipping cost.

AL Crawford WA4TCJ  
919-552-6411  
wa4tcj@juno.com

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

## **Appointed Positions**

### **President**

Mike Gaither – K4MWG

### **Vice President**

Brian Knox – KK4BK

### **Secretary**

Rich Hall, K7RLH

### **Treasurer**

Christy Fernandini - KJ4AEO

### **Member-At-Large**

Al Crawford – WA4TCJ

### **Member-At-Large**

Charles Bruckner – KG4MXV

### **Member-At-Large**

Dan Gilbertson

### **Membership Chair**

David Sossin – N4TTN

### **NET MANAGER**

Joe - KM4YTF

### **Special Events Director**

Gino Fernandini – KI4YXO

### **Public Service Director**

David Krum – NW3U

## **SWARC Mission Statement**

***South Wake ARC's primary purpose is to further the Amateur Radio Service through programs, activities, and education, in order to promote the radio knowledge, fraternalism and individual operating efficiency of our members. Further, it shall be our purpose to support the welfare of our community through public service including radio communications for emergency situations and public events, and through providing information, training, and assistance to individuals or organizations with an interest in the Amateur Radio Service.***

**LINKS** *(if you have other links you want added then send them to me)*

**PRN**

***A Wide Area Digital Amateur Radio Network***

[www.ncprn.net](http://www.ncprn.net)

**GigaParts**

[www.gigaparts.com](http://www.gigaparts.com)

**QRZ**

[www.qrz.com](http://www.qrz.com)

***Ham Radio Outlet HRO***

[www.hamradio.com](http://www.hamradio.com)

***Raleigh Amateur Radio Society RARS***

[www.rars.org](http://www.rars.org)

***Johnson Amateur Radio Society JARS***

[www.jars..net](http://www.jars..net)

***South Wake Amateur Radio Club SWARC***

[www.southwakearc.com](http://www.southwakearc.com)

Greetings to all 145.210 SWARC repeater members.

I have made the decision to temporarily allow the Central Carolina Sky Warn net and the STATE EOC to move their operations to the 145.210 repeater. Some explanation is in order to all SWARC members and I will attempt to outline the circumstances that have brought me to my current Decision.

For a very very long time the 146.880 repeater located on the same tower as is the 145.210 repeater has been the flagship 2 meter repeater as to providing operations for Central Carolina Skywarn, communications for the office of State Emergency Management, and other public service events and nets as needed. Central Carolina Skywarn is tasked with getting live spotter reports and other time valued information from trained spotters in



all these counties when called upon by the National Weather Service. Sky Warn is only activated by direct request from the National Weather Service.

The State EOC uses Winlink for some communications between the Eastern, Central, and Western branch offices during emergencies. They also use the 146.880 repeater for voice communications between the Central and Eastern branch office in Kinston NC during emergencies.

The main 146.880 repeater on the tall Auburn tower has failed and we have been operating on a backup repeater on a 350 foot tower near Garner NC. We are fortunate to have been allowed to utilize this site to keep a repeater on the air on 146.880. Unfortunately, the current footprint of the backup repeater is extremely limited, especially to the East of Raleigh. IE, it is not useable at all even in the Wilson area let alone Rocky Mt., Greenville, Goldsboro, and other key areas that both SkyWarn and the State EOC have a need to communicate with.

There is lots and lots of work going on at the Auburn tall towers sites currently as to the new DTV channel and equipment changes. This work has been going on for 3 or 4 months now and will continue to go on until Probably early or late December of 2019. We are guests on the tower and do not and will not be in the way of all the work that is currently going on at the sites. So, it will probably be early in 2020 before the main 146.880 equipment can be replaced.

The K4ITL 145.210 repeater is the only 2-meter repeater left in the local

area that can satisfy the needs of Central Carolina SkyWarn and the State EOC. In my opinion, the right thing to do in this situation is to SHARE our resource with those who need it. I am extremely grateful to the South Wake Amateur Radio Club for their support of the 145.210 repeater and I consider them as the primary user of this repeater.

Here's the way I wish operations to be carried out until we can get the primary 146.880 repeater back on the air.

There is no reason why both the nightly net and the trader's net can't be carried out on the repeater as they always have been. If SkyWarn happens to be activated when it's time for a net, unless there is emergency traffic in progress, the net goes on as usual with an occasional standby to ask if there is any SkyWarn traffic.

If SkyWarn is activated at other times, during the day or evening, there is still no problem with normal conversations being carried on the 145.210 repeater by SWARC members and others who use the repeater. Just take a pause now and then to see if there is any SkyWarn Traffic.

I hope everyone will be okay with these changes, in the spirit of public service and public safety, it's good for us to be of help when we can.

If anyone wants to discuss this issue or has any other questions or suggestions please feel free to contact me at:

[dannyhampton@fastmail.com](mailto:dannyhampton@fastmail.com)

If the NWS requests that SkyWarn activates tomorrow morning or later in the day tomorrow, They will activate on the 145.210 repeater.

Thanks to one and all for your continued support and assistance in making this work smoothly.

Cordially,  
Danny Hampton

K4ITL

## Vice President Notes

March 1st is the NC QSO party. The South Wake ARC will be sponsoring the award for Single Operator Low Power. Let's see if someone from the club can win this award.

New Years Resolution/Challenge. Do something new with HAM radio. Doesn't have to be hard or expensive, just try something not usual to your ham related operations. Suggestions: Switch from Phone to CW. CW to Digital, VHF FM to VHF SSB or Repeater to Simplex. The ARRL has Monday thru Friday transmissions in Digital, Voice and CW that can help you get established in one of those platforms. Check out the QST magazine or the ARRL website, search W1AW, for transmission times.

ARRL NC Section Manager Karl Bowman (W4CHX) is stepping down in April to take on a different role in ECOMM. Look him up on QRZ.com if you are interested in ECOMM Training.

The Spring Raffle is two, \$250 Gift Cards enabling you to buy what you want. See K4MWG or KK4BK for tickets. Others will be recruited to sales duties soon.

Good Read: <https://www.onallbands.com/beyond-your-local-repeater-15-things-to-do-with-a-technician-license/>

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**I REALLY LOVE MY TOILET.  
WE'VE BEEN THROUGH  
A LOT OF SHIT  
TOGETHER.**



## Pictures from the meeting









